

MENTALLY ILL OFFENDER

Program Evaluation Survey

This survey will become part of your county's MIO contract with the Board of Corrections. For purposes of this survey:

- “Program” refers to a defined set of interventions that will be given to a specified research sample in order to evaluate well-stated hypotheses. If you have more than one Program, please fill out a separate survey for each Program.
- “Research Design” refers to the procedures you will use to test the stated hypotheses for your Program. In some instances you will have more than one Research Design for a Program, in which case a separate survey must be completed for each Research Design.
- “Project” refers to all the work that you propose to do with the MIO Grant. For example, if you have two Programs and two Research Designs for each Program, the entire effort would constitute your Project (and you would complete four surveys).

To simplify the task of completing this survey, we refer you to two sources: 1) the initial Research Design Summary Form, and 2) your Program’s responses to the technical compliance issues identified during the grant review. If no additional information was requested of a particular item on the Research Design Summary Form, you can enter the original text into the appropriate space below. If more information was requested, provide a more complete response.

1.	County: Placer County	
1a.	Researcher: Mark Morris and Associates	Phone: (925)254-0911
	Address: 482 Tahoe Rd.	Fax: (925)-254-9185
	Orinda, CA 94563	E-mail:
1b.	Research Manager: Bekki Riggan	Phone: (916)781-3311
	Address: 3311 Chapelle Dr.	Fax:
	Roseville, CA 95661	E-mail:riggan@softcom.net
1c.	Principal Data Collector: Bekki Riggan	Phone:
	Address: see above	Fax:
		E-mail:

2. **Program Name:** Current Board of Corrections grant participants have found it useful to pick a name that helps them to create a Program identity (two examples are the “IDEA” Program and the “Home Run” Program). Indicate the title you will be using to refer to your Program.

The Placer County CCARES (Continuum of Care to Avoid arrest and Re-Enter Society) Program

3. **Treatment Interventions:** Describe the components of the Program that you will be evaluating. Another way of saying this is, “Describe how the ‘treatment’ offenders (those in the Program) will be treated differently than the comparison offenders (e.g., services while incarcerated, more intensive supervision, more thorough assessment, a wider range of services, more aggressive case management, better aftercare).”

Mentally ill offenders randomly selected for treatment in this program will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary team who will develop a plan to “fast track” these clients in to appropriate services by providing a comprehensive biopsychosocial evaluation, and developing a case plan. If indicated, clients will receive stabilization services while in jail to provide emergency medications, and brief interventions with social work staff. As recommended, clients will move in to a new forensic transitional residential program. Each client will have a personal treatment plan that will include counseling, groups, classes, and other appropriate interventions. Finally, clients will receive an intensive aftercare component that will include intensive supervision, and a special mentoring program.

Mentally ill offenders randomly excluded from this program will not receive the above services.

4. **Research Design:** Describe the Research Design that you will be using. Issues to be addressed here include the name of the design (e.g., true experimental design), the use of random assignment, and any special features that you will include in the design (e.g., the type of comparison group you will use for quasi-experimental designs).

We will use true experimental design with random assignment of subjects to treatment and comparison groups from the same pool of potential research subjects.

- 4a. Check (✓) the statement below that best describes your Research Design. If you find that you need to check more than one statement (e.g., True experimental and Quasi-experimental), you are using more than one Research Design and will need to complete a separate copy of the survey for the other design. Also, check the statements that describe the comparisons you will be making as part of your Research Design.

Research Design (Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True experimental with random assignment to treatment and comparison groups XXXXXXXXXX
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quasi-experimental with matched contemporaneous groups (treatment and comparison)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quasi-experimental with matched historical group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify)
Comparisons (Check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-Program, Single Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-Program, Repeated Assessments (e.g., 6 and 12 months after program separation)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-Post Assessment with Single Post-Program Assessment XXXXXXXXXX
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-Post Assessment with Repeated Post-Program Assessments (e.g., 6 and 12 months after program separation)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify)

- 4b. If you are using a historical comparison group, describe how you will control for period and cohort effects.
N/A

5. **Cost/Benefit Analysis:** Indicate by checking “yes” or “no” whether you will be conducting a Program cost/benefit analysis that includes at least: a) the cost per participant of providing the interventions to the treatment and comparison groups; b) the cost savings to your county represented by the effectiveness of the treatment interventions; and, c) your assessment of the program’s future (e.g., it will continue as is, be changed significantly, be dropped) given the results of the cost/benefit analysis.

Cost/Benefit Analysis	
Yes XXXXX	No

- 5a. If you will perform a cost/benefit analysis, describe how that analysis will be performed.

We will compare recidivism rates between the treatment and control groups to cost out savings to the system from avoided arrests and further criminal justice processing. We will make an effort to estimate future costs.

6. **Target Population:** This refers to the criteria that treatment and comparison subjects must meet in order to be able to participate in the research. Target criteria might include diagnostic categories, age, gender, risk level, legal history, geographical area of residence, etc. Please provide a detailed description of the criteria you will be using and how you will measure those criteria to determine eligibility.

Mentally ill offenders, with significant or insignificant criminal histories and/or grants of probation who were arrested for minor offenses, and some who have perpetrated more serious crimes. Offenders who are participating in the Placer County Conditional Release program will be excluded from this target population.

- 6a. Describe any standardized instruments or procedures that will be used to determine eligibility for Program participation, and the eligibility criteria associated with each (e.g., “significant psychopathology” as measured by the MMPI, etc.).

The current booking process and classification screening done by jail staff will be used. Other tools will include a biopsychosocial clinical assessment, and other tools indicated including the SASSI and other assessment tools as required.

Significant and persistent mental illness will be the eligibility indicator. No specific crimes or diagnoses will be excluded for consideration, but each case will be evaluated on it’s own merit, post adjudication by the court, and prior to inclusion in the sample for random selection in to the program.

7. **Sample Size:** This refers to the number of subjects who will participate in the treatment and comparison samples during the entire course of the research. Of course, in any applied research program, subjects drop out for various reasons (e.g., moving out of the county, failure to complete the program). In addition, there will probably be mentally ill offenders who participate in the Program you will be researching and not be part of the research sample (e.g., they may not meet one or more of the criteria for participation in the research), or they may enter into the Program too late for you to conduct the follow-up the research you intend to do. **Using the table below**, indicate the number of participants who will complete the treatment interventions or comparison group interventions, plus the minimum six months follow-up period after Program completion. This also will be the number of subjects that you will be including in your statistical hypothesis testing to evaluate the Program outcomes. Provide a breakdown of the sample sizes for each of the four Program years, as well as the total Program. Under **Unit of Analysis**, check the box that best describes the unit of analysis you will be using in your design.

Sample Sizes (Write the expected number in each group)			
Program Year	Treatment Group		Comparison Group
First Year	50		50
Second Year	75		75
Third Year	50		50
Total	175		175
Unit of Analysis (Check one)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual Offender	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family
<input type="checkbox"/>	Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geographic Area (e.g., neighborhood)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

8. **Key Dates:**
- "Program Operational" is the date that the first treatment subject will start in the Program.

- “Final Treatment Completion” is the date when the last treatment subject in the research sample will finish the interventions that constitute the Program (and before the start of the follow-up period).
- “Final Follow Up Data” is the date when the last follow-up data will be gathered on a research subject (e.g., six months after the last subject completes the treatment interventions or whenever these data will become available).

Program Start-up*: January 1, 2000
 Program Operational Date: July 1, 2000
 Final Treatment Completion Date: June 30, 2003 (MDT; Stabilization Unit; Aftercare)
 March 1, 2003 (Residential Treatment)
 Final Follow-Up Data Date: August 30, 2003

* Development of program; meetings of MDT to begin; cases seen in “mental health court” ~ to prepare to actually staff program with clients ready for random selection research to begin July 1, 2000

9. **Matching Criteria:** (Whether or not you are using a true experimental design), please indicate the variables that you will be tracking to assess comparability between the groups. Matching criteria might include: age, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, criminal history mental health diagnosis, etc.

Comparability will be assessed by comparing mental health history, severity of criminal offense, age, ethnicity, and recidivism.

- 9a. After each characteristic listed above, describe how it will be measured.

Criminal data will be gathered by jail staff at intake, and a review will be done of criminal data, including booking records, and criminal classification system. This will provide mental health history, severity of criminal offense, and age and ethnicity. Recidivism will be measured by checking criminal records over time. Mental health status will be evaluated through biopsychosocial assessment done at entry, and the Placer County Adult Outcomes Screen done at entry, and done at exit.

- 9b. Which of these characteristics, if unequally distributed between the treatment and comparison groups, would complicate or confound the tests of your hypotheses? How will you manage that problem?

Each of these characteristics, if unequally distributed between the treatment and comparison group, could complicate or confound the tests of hypotheses. We will manage this potential problem by conducting statistical tests while we control for those factors that are unequally distributed.

10. **Comparison Group:** The intent here is to document the kind of comparison group you will using. If you are using a true experimental design, the comparison group will be randomly selected from the same subject pool as the treatment subjects (in which case you would enter "true experimental design" in the space below). However, for quasi-experimental designs, the comparison group might come from a number of different sources such as: matched institutions, matched geographical areas, other matched counties, a matched historical group, etc.

True experimental design.

Please identify the source of your comparison group.

Mentally ill offenders in jail who are not randomly selected for participation.

11. **Assessment Process:** The intent here is to summarize the assessment process that will determine the nature of the interventions that the mentally ill offenders in the treatment group will receive. For example, psychological testing,

multi-agency and/or multi-disciplinary assessments, etc. Also, describe the qualifications of those who will be doing the assessments.

A qualified Placer County Practitioner or Licensed Clinician will do a complete and comprehensive biopsychosocial clinical assessment, and other assessments as indicated. These will be reviewed by the Multidisciplinary Team to develop an appropriate treatment approach.

- 11a. Describe any standardized assessment instruments that will be administered to all treatment group subjects for the purposes of identifying appropriate interventions.

SASSI is the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory
Behavior & Symptom Identification Scale (BASIS 32)
California Quality of Life (CA-QOL)
Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program (MHSIP)

- 11b. Describe any assessment instrument designed by your county that you will use.

The Placer County Biopsychosocial Assessment Inventory
The Placer County Adult Outcomes Screen

- 11c. Identify which assessment instruments, if any, will also be administered to comparison group subjects.

Criminal intake, classification, and mental health history administered by jail personnel

12. **Treatment Group Eligibility:** Indicate the process (as opposed to the criteria) by which research subjects will be selected into the pool from which treatment subjects will be chosen. This process might include referral by a judge, referral by a school official, referral by a law enforcement officer, administration of a risk assessment instrument, etc.

After booking in to jail, an initial screening by the Multi Disciplinary Team will determine the pool from which treatment subjects will be randomly selected, post adjudication.

13. **Comparison Group Eligibility:** Indicate the process by which research subjects will be selected into the pool from which comparison subjects will be chosen. For true experimental designs, this process will be the same as for treatment subjects.

After booking in to jail, an initial screening by the Multi Disciplinary Team will determine the pool from which control group subjects will be randomly selected, post adjudication.

- 13a. If procedures for determining the eligibility of participants for the Comparison Group differ from those described in 12, please describe them. If different procedures are used, how will you ensure comparability of the two groups in terms of critical characteristics?

Answer questions 14 - 17 by filling in the table below as instructed.

14. **Outcome Variables:** In the table below, list some of the most important outcome variables that you are hypothesizing will be positively affected by your Program. Possibilities include improvement in personal functioning, arrest rate, successful completion of probation, alcohol and drug-related behavior, risk classification, etc.

The most important outcome variables positively affected by this program will be:

- Reduction in recidivism
- Reduction in use of jail beds

15. **Score/Scale:** To "measure" the effects produced by your Program requires putting the variable in question on some sort of measuring scale (e.g., a test score, a count of occurrences, a rating scale, a change-score indicating progress of some sort). For each variable, for which you are making a hypothesis, indicate in the table below the measurement that you will be statistically analyzing when you test your hypothesis.

16. **Additional Information:** To explain more fully how you intend to test your hypothesis, you might find it helpful to supply additional information. For example, you might intend to partition the data by gender, or make differential hypotheses for different age ranges. Supplying "additional information" is optional; but if there is some aspect of the hypotheses testing that is important for us to know about, please supply the information in this section.

16a. For each outcome variable that will not be measured by a standardized assessment procedure, describe the measurement procedures that will be used. For instance, if your county has developed a risk-assessment tool that you will be using to measure change, please describe how it works.

We will use the Placer County Outcomes Adult Screening Form. This pre and post screening form will allow us to evaluate the success of our clients in a variety of life domains, including: safe, healthy, at home (or in most home-like environment, at work/contributing/participating, out of trouble (obeying all laws, engaged in self-controlled, positive, non-violent behavior, not involved with the criminal justice system/following requirements if involved), and financially self sufficient.

17. **Significance Test:** In order for a statistical procedure to be the appropriate test of a particular hypothesis, certain assumptions must be met. It is critical at the outset of a research design to make sure that the measuring devices, measuring scales, samples, and methodology produce the kind of data that fit the requirements of the intended statistical procedure. In this section, please list your choice for the testing of your hypothesis, given the research design you have chosen, the measurement you will use, and the data you will be collecting.

Variable	Score/Scale	Additional Information	Significance Test
Number of arrests	Count	Only those subjects with the appropriate characteristics will be tested	Two-sample z/t test (depending on sample size)
Proportion successfully completing Probation	Count	Only those subjects with the appropriate characteristics will be tested	Two-sample z/t test (depending on sample size)
Proportion of those needing medication begin treatment*	Proportion	Only those subjects with the appropriate characteristics will be tested	Two-sample z/t test (depending on sample size)
Proportion of those with alcohol and/or substance abuse issues begin and/or complete treatment*	Proportion	Only those subjects with the appropriate characteristics will be tested	Two-sample z/t test (depending on sample size)

**Taking medications and participating in completing substance abuse counseling would be considered both outcome and intervening variables.*

The following questions are supplemental to the Research Design Summary Form and will help us understand how you intend to manage data collected for this project.

18. What additional background information (if any) will be collected for the participants (both treatment and comparison)? For instance, will you gather information about family criminal background, drug involvement, family variables, work history, educational background, etc. If so, what will be collected and how?

We will not collect additional background on the control group subjects, beyond what is required for the BOC Common Data Elements, but will collect this information on treatment group subjects through the clinical assessment process, using the Placer County Biopsychosocial Assessment Form.

19. How will the process evaluation be performed? What components will be addressed and how will they be measured (e.g., services available and frequency of use of those services by each participant)? What is the time frame for gathering process-related information? What recording mechanisms will be used? If descriptive or statistical analyses will be performed, please describe what they will be.

The process evaluation will be performed by collecting quantitative (number and type of contacts for subjects in treatment and comparison), observational (planning meetings, staff meetings, service delivery), and interview data (staff and research subjects). We will begin our data gathering as orientation meetings begin and will collect data throughout the term of the grant. The recording mechanisms for the quantitative data will include contact logs and tracking forms to capture service frequency, progression through the various stages of the program, and success completion rates for each program component. The recording mechanisms for observational and interview data will be fieldnotes kept by evaluation staff. The descriptive or statistical analyses that we will perform include two-sample means tests to determine if there are statistically significant differences between the treatment and control group on mean number of contact and service days, violations of probation and rearrests, and adherence to medication and substance abuse counseling requirements.

20. Describe how you will document services received by the treatment and comparison group members. Examples are: how many counseling sessions did the subject attend, how intense (and by what measure) was the drug treatment, did the subject complete the interventions, etc.?

Each participant client will have a case file. All assessment and screening devices or tests will be included. The MultiDisciplinary Team will develop a treatment plan that will be included, and progress for each client will be charted to that plan. The plan will be reviewed periodically by the Team, and by the case manager, Probation Officer, and residential treatment facility staff for compliance and progress, and notes made in the file.

Information on Comparison Group Members will be gathered through court records, county records, jail records, or other means, including information gathered through the mental health services program(s) the client participates in.

21. What will be the criteria for completion of the program (by what criteria will you decide that the research subject has received the full measure of the treatment that is hypothesized to have a beneficial impact. For instance, will the Program run for a specified amount of time irrespective of the participants' improvement or lack thereof? If so, how long? Alternatively, will completion be determined by the participants' having achieved a particular outcome? If so, what will that outcome be and how will it be measured? An example is decreased risk as measured by a "level of functioning" instrument.

MultiDisciplinary Team (MDT) Component: Assessment and treatment plan completed and/or legal process fulfilled

Crisis Stabilization Unit: Client stable, and ready for transfer to residential treatment, release, or other treatment/incarceration

Residential Treatment: 90 days and/or completion of treatment plan (specific criteria will be developed by the Program Development Team, which will include members of the MDT)

Aftercare Component: 6 months and completion of treatment plan (developed by MDT), or release by parole or probation

22. If Program completion will be linked to probation terms, how will you record those terms and identify adequate completion? Examples include completion of mental health or substance abuse programs, etc.

The court will issue and forward to the Probation Department the order indicating the specific Terms and Conditions of Formal Probation. A Probation Officer will be assigned as part of the program, and will attend Multi Disciplinary Team meeting. The Probation Officer will provide a copy of the Probation terms to the treatment staff for the clinical record to determine who clients are progressing in the program, and what additional services they might require. Monthly progress notes and probation records will be used to assure compliance relative to the Probation Terms. Periodic warrant checks will be done as needed. All of this information, and other data will be gathered for evaluation by the MultiDisciplinary Team for determination if client has completed their treatment goals, their transition goals (if in residential treatment), and other goals as set by the Team. For purposes of this program, a term of compliance with Probation requirements will indicate "completion", however, all clients will remain in the Aftercare component of this program for the term of their probation.

Successful completion of either in-patient or outpatient treatment programs, completion of treatment goals, program compliance, and, on-going compliance with the Terms and Conditions of Probation will identify adequate completion.

23. On what basis will a subject be terminated from the Program and be deemed to have failed to complete the Program? Will those who leave, drop out, fail, or are terminated from the Program be tracked in terms of the research dependent variables? For how long?

- (a) A move outside of the jurisdiction of Placer County Probation or re-offense in another county will constitute termination from the program. Participants can re-apply for the Program based on the court's granting of formal Probation. Depending on the level and severity of the client's re-offense, re-admission to the program will be considered and determined by the Court. Unsuccessful completion of Terms and Conditions of Probation based on the client's unwillingness or inability to comply based on a mental disorder could result in termination should a higher level of care due to a mental disorder be necessary.

Violations of the Terms and Conditions of Probation will be managed at the discretion of both the clinical and legal treatment team members. However, the following guidelines will be provided for assistance in disposition of violations.

1. Written documentation and verbal counseling with adjustments to the treatment plan as needed.
2. Notification to the Court of Technical Violation as advisement of changes in treatment plan.
3. Filing of a Formal Violation of Terms and Conditions. Re-application to the Program may be available based on court action

- (b) Yes, program participants in all of these categories will be tracked for survival analysis on all research dependent variables for the entire length of the program.